



Volume 2 Issue 7

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U S A R M Y

USAG Schinnen Tri-border News Notes



Dr. King driver gives insight to Civil Rights leader



Photo by LaDonna Davis

During a meet and greet luncheon held at the Schinnen bowling center Jan. 18, Dr. Martin Luther King's driver and personal assistant, Tom Houck, gives first-hand accounts of the time he spent with Dr. King in the 1960's during a time when racial discrimination was widely accepted, and the Civil Rights movement was at its height.

By LaDonna Davis

Martin Luther King's driver reminisced about his time with the great civil rights leader, evoked discussion among audience members and gave first hand recounts of King during a meet and greet luncheon held at the Schinnen Bowling center Jan. 18.

During the 1960's, Tom Houck drove around King during the height of the civil rights movement. He has made a career out of informing audiences about his time with King and will very soon publish a book detailing his life as a driver and assistant to the civil rights leader.

A white man, Houck is unique in that he grew up during a time when racial discrimination and segregation was at its height. But instead of following the norm, Houck saw past color and wanted to do something about the mistreatment and disrespect that blacks were facing on a daily basis.

"I, like many others was shocked and appalled by what I was seeing on T.V. I was determined at that point to change the racial segregation that persisted across the country—not just in the South, but the North as well; and I dedicated myself to the Civil Rights movement," said

Houck.

Houck's career as King's driver began when he was only 18 years old. After dropping out of high school in Cambridge, Mass. and moving to Selma, Ala. Houck began working for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). It was there that he was introduced to Dr. King.

"As an 18 year old, I can't tell you what it was like, really, to experience just being around one of the greatest leaders I consider in my life, and one of the greatest leaders of the millennium," Houck boasts. "King was an unusual individual in that he was able to bring theology into politics and weave a tapestry that could bring people together around issues and causes."

Though a driver for King, Houck wanted to play a larger role in the Civil Rights Movement. By participating in marches and demonstrations aside King and his followers, Houck played a vital role in the history of civil rights. "Registering people to vote was a very difficult business, getting the laws was very difficult. I know how mundane it may sound today, but just trying to

get restrooms desegregated, taking the 'colored' signs down, was difficult, and we're talking just 42 years ago."

King's dream of racial peace among American's is still one that is being strived for today in our society. But though we've made progress in the fight against discrimination since King's death, some people think there is still a long way we have to go.

"We're progressing slowly," says Carlene Little, an attendee of the luncheon. "Everything that Dr. King fought for we're still fighting for today. His dream is still a dream. It's time for us to wake up from the dream and let's move forward."

"I think the moral soul force of Martin Luther King gave me greater confidence and strength than what I might have had otherwise, said Houck. "It was a very fascinating period of time in American history, one that was very important and I was very lucky to be a participant of."

CHANGE TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS TRI-BORDER NEWS NOTES SCHEDULE

Please note the following changes to the PAO Tri-Border submission and publishing dates. If you have an event, announcement, or story that you would like published in the Tri-Border News Notes, please submit the information by the appropriate deadline to ladonna.s.davis@us.army.mil along with the Community Announcement Request form.

Tri-News Notes& Community Events Calendar		Meteor-Heraut	
Material Due:	Publication:	Material Due:	Publication:
Jan 20	Jan 25	Oct 21	Nov 4
Feb 3	Feb 8	Nov 4	Nov 18
Feb 17	Feb 22	Nov 18	Dec 2
March 3	March 8	Dec 2	Dec 16
March 17	March 22	Dec 16	Jan 3
March 31	April 5	Jan 3	Jan 13
April 14	April 19	Jan 13	Jan 27
April 28	May 3	Jan 27	Feb 10
May 12	May 17	Feb 10	Mar 24
May 26	May 31	Mar 24	Apr 7
June 9	June 14	Apr 7	Apr 21
June 23	June 28	Apr 21	May 5
July 7	July 12	May 5	May 19
July 21	July 26	May 19	Jun 2
Aug. 4	Aug. 9	Jun 2	Jun 16
Aug 18	Aug 23	Jun 16	Jul 7
Sept 1	Sept 6	Jul 7	Jul 21
Sept 15	Sept 20	Jul 21	Aug 11
Sept 29	Oct 4	Aug 11	Aug 25
Oct 13	Oct 18	Aug 25	Sep 8
Oct27	Nov 1	Sep 8	Sep22
Nov 10	Nov 15	Sep 22	Oct 6

!!!CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

**Congratulations to the
Geilenkirchen Family
Support Center for being
voted Best in USAFE 2005
Category II**



Super Bowl XL comes to Schinnen!!!!

Are you ready for some football...

Coming February 5th, the Schinnen Bowling Center will host a *super* Super Bowl Party in the Memories Lane Lounge.

To assure yourself a seat at the party, you must pay \$5 in advance at the Bowling Center, or take your chances and pay \$10 at the door. The party starts at 10 pm with snacks and door prizes throughout the evening. A delicious chicken enchiladas meal will be served at half-time.

February 5 is just around the corner, so sign up for Super Bowl 40 today.

What you don't know may hurt your pocketbook

By: The Netherlands Tax Center

PCS moves are a fact of life in the military and for those who support the military. Whether you are a Soldier, a family member, a DoDDS teacher or a DA civilian subject to the 5-year rule, we all will have to relocate during the course of our military service. Military authorities understand that PCS moves are a stress on families, both socially and financially. Through appropriations of the U.S. Congress, military authorities attempt to minimize and alleviate some of the financial burdens associated with PCS moves. Move-In Housing Allowance, Dislocation Allowance and the U.S. Army Claims program are just three examples.

Unfortunately, not every possible PCS expense is covered by the military because the U.S. Government is not an insurance carrier. This reality can materialize in unexpected ways. Take, for example, the actual delivery of your Household Goods (HHG), Unaccompanied Baggage (UB), Government-provided furnishings and appliances. If the contractor moving those items damages your landlord's building, the landlord will expect you to reimburse him for the cost of repairs. Unfortunately, the U.S. Army Claims service cannot legally pay you under the Claims statute for damage to the owner's property.

So, what can you do? The contractor's negligence was not your fault. But, neither was it the landlord's fault, and the landlord

does have your security deposit. The security deposit is the landlord's means of ensuring that the premises you leased are returned to him in a condition substantially similar to the condition in which you received the premises, less normal wear and tear.

The first action you can take is to be vigilant. Make sure that you watch the contract personnel as they move these items into your leased premises and ensure that there is no physical damage to your landlord's property. Consider having your landlord present during the delivery because a second pair of eyes and ears is helpful in these situations. Your vigilance will go a long way in protecting your pocketbook. The contractor personnel are responsible for the damage and it is your responsibility to ensure that they take responsibility for their negligence. You accomplish this by properly annotating the paperwork provided by the senior contractor representative carrying out the work. Do not give the contract personnel high marks for damaging your landlord's property. An accurate assessment of the contractor's performance is your best defense to a later claim against your security deposit.

The third step you should take is to contact **Quality Control at USAG Schinnen (046-4437571)** as soon as you notice damage to the property caused by the contract movers. The same is true for furnishings and appliances you request through the **Central Furnishings Management Office, (046-4437344)**. Notify that office im-

mediately and ask for guidance. If the QC or CFMO official cannot come to your location, the representative will speak directly to the contractor supervisor at the site and explain the proper procedure for annotating the damage. Taking the steps above ensures that you have done all you can to ensure that you are not held financially culpable for damages caused by another party. Failure to do so could result in a later request (or demand) to compensate the landlord for the repairs to his property.

Please remember, Government Leased Quarters occupants do have a responsibility similar to private leased quarters occupants. The difference is that there is no security deposit and that the command will have to create a record of the damage using AR 735-5, Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss. But the end result may be the same--Government Leased Quarters occupants will be held financially responsible by the U.S. Government for the repair of damage caused by contract movers when the occupant fails to annotate damages on the carrier's paperwork and fails to promptly contact appropriate QC and CFMO authorities when the damage is first discovered.

As is applicable in most legal matters, an ounce of prevention is often worth more than a kilo of cure. Please contact the NeLC Claims Office for all claims related questions at DSN 364-6211 or (0031) 45 563-6211.

Critical Information Concerning Household Goods and Unaccompanied

Baggage Claims: DD Form 1840 and 1840R

By: The Netherlands Tax Center

One of the best aspects of U.S. Army service is the opportunity to live in and travel to incredible places around the world. As an added bonus, Uncle Sam will usually pay for the move of your household goods (HHG) and unaccompanied baggage (UB). In a perfect world there would be no need for DD Forms 1840 and 1840R. Unfortunately, there are those rare and frustrating occasions where precious HHG or UB items are damaged or lost during transit. It is on these rare occasions that we need to realize the importance of these two forms.

DD Forms 1840/1840R are the most critical documents in the HHG claims process. Understanding the importance of completing and timely submitting DD Forms 1840/1840R is of the utmost necessity for arriving PCS personnel.

DD Form 1840 is the front portion of this 2-sided document. It is completed and returned to the movers after your HHG items have been delivered and you notice obvious loss

or damage. HHG deliveries can be a stressful event and one may not notice every missing or damaged item. That is understandable. But, any loss or damage during delivery that you do observe should be noted on the front side of the 1840 pink form.

DD Form 1840R is the rear portion of the document. The 1840R **MUST** be **completed and received** by the nearest claims office **within 70 calendar days** after delivery of your HHG/UB items. A claimant must allow ample time for the 1840R to arrive at the claims office **within 70 calendar days** when using the mail. The 1840R must be accurately completed because the claims office uses it to determine exactly which HHG items were damaged or lost. If the 1840R is not filed **within 70 calendar days**, the claims office must reduce your payable claim by the amount of compensation that the claims office could have recovered from the carrier. In many cases, the *potential carrier recovery* deduction will result in **No Payment** for HHG/UB items not listed on the 1840R.

The claims office is generally successful

in recovering the carrier's liability in many shipments, but it cannot do so when the HHG item is not noted on the 1840R or when the 1840R is not timely received. This deadline covers every HHG and UB move regardless of the size. Therefore, you must carefully inspect and note all damage within the **70 calendar day filing deadline** even when your HHG shipment is gigantic. You may file more than one 1840R when you discover a loss or damage after your initial 1840R filing. But, all **DD Form 1840Rs must be filed within 70 calendar days**.

Please keep in mind that submitting the DD Form 1840R **within 70 calendar days** does not constitute filing of a claim. You must still file a formal claim within 2 years of the delivery date of your HHG/UB shipment. Ask the NeLC Claims Office for assistance if you have additional questions concerning your DD Form 1840/1840R or if you require additional claims information at DSN 364-6211 or (0031) 45 563 6211.

Interactive Customer Evaluation



- Is a web based customer feedback system
- Enables you to comment on over 50 USAG Schinnen services
- Permits you to communicate directly with service providers
- Is accessible 24/7
- Is built on a basic browser so you don't need a "high speed" computer to provide your comments
- Permits you to obtain information about service providers
- Allows you to see how other patrons have rated the service
- Enables you to comment on services you have received at other installations
- Is a world wide system maintained by DOD



How can I reach the ICE web site?

WEB Connections:

The ICE Homepage is <http://ice.disa.mil>
A worldwide map on this site allows you to drill down to any installation in the ICE system

USAG Schinnen patrons can link to the installation's ICE site by going to <http://www.usagschinnen.eur.army.mil> and clicking 'Feedback' on the horizontal menu

What if I don't have my own computer?

Computers that are connected to the installation LAN can be used to submit ICE comments

Computers with Internet access for ICE comment submission can be found at several locations including:

ICE Proponent
at USAG
Schinnen is
Plans,
Analysis, &
Integration
Office
Bldg. 8 Rm. 214
Phone: 360-
7434

Fitness Center
Brunssum Library
DPW Housing Office
DPW Work Reception
DPW ShipStore
DHR In/Out Processing
Army Community Service
Central Issue Facility
Bowling Center
Youth Services
SATO & Driver's Testing
SSSC
Education Center

Using ICE: The USAG Schinnen Homepage link will take you to the search page, which enables you to pick a category of service about which you wish to comment.



When you select the general area of interest a list of providers you can rate will come up



Click on
this line
to reach
the
comment
card

Click here
to obtain
information
about the
service
provider

Click here
to see how
others rate
the
service

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

Jan. 26-29: *Art & Antique Weekend* at Grote Kerk in the center of Naarden (NL). More than 40 renowned Dutch and Belgian antique and art dealers participate in this large fair. On display are furniture, silver, jewelry, paintings, ceramics, china, crystal and lots more. Open: Friday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Entry: € 12.50 (incl. catalogue). Information: 0031-(0)35-6239695.

Jan. 28-29: *Flea Market* at MECC in Maastricht (NL). Info: 0031-(0)43-3838383.

Jan. 29: *World of Curiosity* in Grote Kerk, Torenstraat in the center of The Hague (NL). About 175 dealers and collectors will offer their most beautiful items. Offered is glass, china, tin ware, paintings, knickknack, items from granny's days, furniture and more. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Entry: € 4. Information: 0031-(0)492-525483.

Feb. 2-5: *National Art Deco Fair* with international art from the period 1880-1980 at Grote Kerk on Torenstraat in the center of The Hague (NL). Entry: € 8.50. Information: 0031-(0)251-242248. Open: Thursday, 3-9 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Feb. 5: First *Winterwalk Schinnen*. Start and finish are at the Community Center (next to Fire Department) on Burg. Pijlsstraat 1e in Schinnen. Participants can choose from 4 distances: 6, 10, 15 and 20 KM. Start times are for 6 km between 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; 10 km between 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; 15 km between 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and 20 km between 8 a.m.-noon. The walks will take you through forest and fields. At checkpoints/resting places you will find something to drink and food as well as toilet accommodations. Entry fee is € 1.70. For more information call 0031-(0)6-15391793.

Join Chaplain Walden for a fun and informative **Valentine's Get-Away** *In Romantic Brugge*



Who: All Married Couples

When: 24-25 February

Cost: 10 Euros or 10 Dollars

Sponsored By: U.S. Army Garrison Benelux
Family Life Chaplain

Contact #: 423-5653/5654 to sign up



2006, Annual Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA), Utility Survey for The Netherlands & Germany

By: Marina Severens

Annually, the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Allowance (PDTATAC) conducts the OHA Utility Survey to collect Utility and Recurring Maintenance expense data from uniformed Service Members who receive an Overseas Housing Allowance. PDTATAC uses this data to compute OHA Utility and Recurring Maintenance Allowances for Service members worldwide.

The survey is scheduled for Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands from 1 February to 2 March 2006.

The survey will be available to all Uniformed Service members who reside in

privately leased quarters overseas and receive an overseas housing allowance. The survey will be available on the internet via the PDTATAC home page.

The link will not be operational until 1 February 2006.

<https://www.perdiem.osd.mil/oha/ohasurvey>

To complete the online survey, service members will be asked for the last four digits of their SSN. Responses will be held in strict confidence.

The PDTATAC is using a new survey format and would like to get your comments about the survey. The service member is strongly encouraged

to tell the committee what they like, don't like, and what could be done better.

Eligible service members will be contacted thru their e-mail address (if available at the DPW-Housing Office) about survey details.

Point of contact for the Netherlands is Ms. Marina Severens, Housing Specialist, DPW, USAG Schinnen and can be reached at DSN 360-7281 or (0031) 46-4437281.



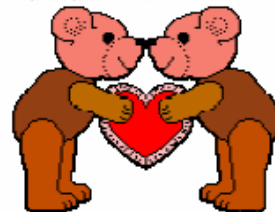
BOSS Valentine's Day "Treats for Troops"



The USAG Schinnen Tri-Border Better Opportunities for Single Service Members will be delivering "Treats for Troops" to the injured troops at Landstuhl Army Medical Center. If you would like to donate any items, i.e. teddy bears, chocolates, treats, DVD's, games, transformers, etc. or assist B.O.S.S. with delivering the treats please contact one of the following by 10 February 2006.

SFC Carol A. Beauford AFNorth Bldg 307 +31-45-526- 4145/3913
SGT Mecheundra D. Jackson AFNorth Bldg 603 +31-45-526-2518/3745
SSgt LaKisha M. Conley USAF GK Medical Clinic +49-2451-99-3378/6378

Your donations will contribute highly to the morale of the troops and anything that you can donate will greatly be appreciated. Thank you for supporting your local BOSS!





Best Friends Forever



The Tri-Border Region Integrated Delivery System is presenting a one-day educational workshop on improving communication for couples.

When: Saturday, 18 Mar 06

Time: 0900-1630

Where: at the Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base Chapel.

Relationship breakdown is like the build-up before a mud slide. Years of erosion underneath the ground's surface can go unnoticed – until that final rainstorm hits. This workshop is designed to help you protect your relationship from erosion, as well as regain any ground you may have lost.

To sign up call 02451-99-3378. Please sign up by 10 Mar 06. Child care will be available, if requested by 10 Mar 06.



**This workshop is not a therapy group or a sharing of personal concerns.*

Head-start to Dutch

The 20 hour introductory course on the host nation language and culture will now be offered EVERY MONTH!!

Classes will begin on Feb 13 and are scheduled for the remainder of the year on the second Monday of every month running Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Treebeek Education Center.

The class and textbook are of no cost for active duty service members, family members and civilians in possession of a NATO or U.S. ID card.

Please call the education center at 364-6041 or 045-563-6041 and reserve your seat for this worthwhile glance at your country or residence.



Black History Month Dance

The Schinnen MASON Benjamin F. Luke Lodge #127 organization is sponsoring a Black History month dance Feb. 18 from 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. at the Hoensbroek Castle in Hoensbroek, Netherlands.

The attire is semi-formal and the night is sure to be filled with great dancing, great food, and great fun. Tickets for the evening cost 30 Euros.

For more information, please contact Staff Sgt. Harold L. Anderson at 046-474-5242

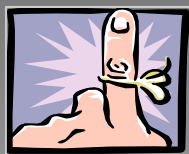


Netherlands tax center opens

The Netherlands Tax Center will officially open effective Monday, Jan. 30 thru Thursday, June 15. The hours of operation will be Monday thru Wednesday and Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment only; and Thursday, from noon to 7 p.m. on a walk-in basis. Call DSN 364-6204 or CIV 0031-45-563-6204 to schedule an appointment.

To prevent delays in processing your taxes, please bring your Military or DoD ID card, W2 form, social security cards (for self and all individuals being claimed as dependents or exemptions for income tax purposes), copy of last years federal and state income tax records, 1099-Div, 1099-Int, child care records, and any other documents you have received concerning filing your income taxes.

BE A PART OF THE AFAP CONFERENCE



Don't forget to submit your issues and consider being a delegate for the Army Family Action Plan conference being held at USAG Schinnen Feb. 16th and 17th from 8-4:30.

The AFAP conference gives you an opportunity to express your issues and concerns for resolve at a local level so that they can be forwarded to higher levels for resolution.

The conference is open to all active duty military, family members, retirees and DA civilians.

For more information call ACS at 443-7500

got issues?

Well here's your chance to express them during the AAFES Commissary forum.

When: Feb. 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Where: USAG Schinnen
ACS conference room

Don't miss out on a chance to let your voice be heard.

AFNORTH LIONS

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DATE	BASKETBALL	WRESTLING	ORCAS SWIMMING
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Jan 25	@ SHAPE	-----	-----
Jan 28	-----	@ SHAPE	DIVISION MEET @ Stuttgart
Feb 03	HOME vs	-----	-----
Feb 04	St. John's	@ Lakenheath	-----
Feb 10	@ Bitburg	-----	-----
Feb 11	@ Bitburg	@ Ramstein	-----
Feb 17	HOME vs SHAPE	EUROPEANS	-----
Feb 18	-----	@ WIESBADEN	EUROPEANS
Feb 19	-----	-----	@ Riccione, IT
Feb 22-25	BASKETBALL EUROPEANS @ MANNHEIM		
Mar 10	Winter Sports Banquet		



HOME EVENTS: Basketball: Friday 4:00, Saturday 10:00; Call 0031-(0)45-527-8261 for updates times & schedules. Swimming @ JFC Pool, www.geilenkirchenorcasswimteam.org

Call 0031-(0)45-527-8261, M-F, 8:30-3:30, for updated schedule information

AIS Booster Club -- Supporting Your AFNORTH LIONS